United Nations A/64/585–S/2009/661

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
21 December 2009

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 14
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-fourth year

Identical letters dated 17 December 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit the annexed statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia dated 12 December 2009, on "elections" in Abkhazia, Georgia (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 14.

(*Signed*) Alexander **Lomaia**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 17 December 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on "elections" in Abkhazia

The occupant regime, which has been established on the occupied territory of Georgia, namely in Abkhazia, is putting up another show titled "presidential elections," in which the creature, selected by Moscow long ago, will be announced "president" of the proxy regime.

Undoubtedly, these so-called elections, and other similar types of farces, are illegal and unreservedly lack legitimacy. It is impossible to find any sort of justification for this episode in view of the prevalent conditions, when ethnic cleansing has taken place several times on this territory of Georgia, resulting in three fourths of the indigenous populations being expelled and their property seized and robbed. Thereby, the banished Georgians, Ukrainians, Armenians, Greeks, Azerbaijanis, Estonians and others cannot exercise their right to partake in determining the future of their homeland. Under these circumstances, the act of holding any sort of so-called elections is not only fraudulent by nature, but also constitutes an act of sacrilege.

In addition, it has to be duly noted that the remaining part of the population on the territory of Abkhazia is deprived of any fundamental rights and freedoms, which have furthermore become a subject of gross violations on a massive scale — whether it concerns their rights to receive education in a native language, or their freedom of movement. Even in cases when the issue is providing healthcare or medical treatment to the local population, the proxy regime and their patrons do not allow the residents of the occupied regions to cross the line of occupation.

It is widely acknowledged that the report produced by the so-called "Tagliavini Commission" unequivocally states that the so-called "independence" declared by the proxy regimes of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, along with their "recognition", is outright illegal and categorically contravenes the universally recognized principles and norms of international law.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia appeals to all members of the international community to give a proper assessment of another farce conducted in one of the occupied regions of Georgia, and to continue steadily the non-recognition policy with regard to these regions.

Tbilisi, December 12, 2009